Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 INSE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 CA-01 VO-05 SY-05 /064 W

O 272201Z JUL 78 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9124
INFO COMNAVBASE GUANTANAMO BAY CUBA IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CNO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA IMMEDIATE
COMNAVFORCARIB ROOSEVELT ROADS PR IMMEDIATE

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SECSTATE PASS INS

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SREF, HA

SUBJECT: RETURN OF 102 HAITIAN EMIGRANTS TO HAITI

REF: PORT AU PRINCE 3062

1. FIRST TWO PLANE LOADS ARRIVED ABOUT 0930 HAITI TIME 27 JULY CARRYING 36 HAITIANS AND ACCOMPANIED BY REAR ADMIRAL KNOIZE, WARD CHRISTENSEN, HEAD OF STATE TEAM, AND CLIFF TIGHE, EMBASSY. ARRIVALS MET BY CHARGE AND OTHER EMBASSY OFFICIALS AND BY GOH DEPUTY CHIEF PROTOCOL, LOW RANKING IMMIGRATIONS OFFICIALS, TWO OFFICERS FROM CASERNE DESSALINES, AND ONE MEMBER OF HAITIAN PRESS.

2. OFFLOADING UNEVENTFUL. AFTER CLEARING IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS IN REGULAR MANNER, EMIGRANTS LOADED ON TRUCK AND TAKEN TO CASERNE DESSALINES. SINCE GOH HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY REFERRED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO PLAN TO TAKE EMIGRANTS TO CASERNE, CHARGE CALLED FOREIGN SECRETARY BRUTUS TO ENSURE THAT AGREEMENT BEING HONORED. BRUTUS SAID EMIGRANTS WERE TO BE QUESTIONED FOR ONE HOUR AT CASERNE CONCERNING WHO HAD ORGANIZED TRIP, THAT PROCEDURE WAS SIMILAR TO THAT USED FOR 294 HAITIANS RETURNED FROM SANTIAGO DE CUBA LAST WEEK (AND WITH OTHER GROUPS LAST YEAR) AND THAT GOH WOULD NOT PUNISH THEM FOR ILLEGAL MIGRATION. PRESIDENT,

HE SAID, HAD GIVEN FORMAL ORDER TO THAT EFFECT.

- 3. SECOND AND THIRD SERIES OF TWO FLIGHTS ARRIVED 1215 AND 1520 AND WERE HANDLED IN IDENTICAL FASHION.
- 4. NEWS OF RETURN OF HAITIANS HAS APPEARED IN MEDIA AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO GET FURTHER COVERAGE.
- 5. EMBASSY WILL FOLLOW UP WITH GOH AND EMIGRANTS TO ASCERTAIN FULL DETAILS ON GOH HANDLING OF THEM.
- 6. APPRECIATE EXCELLENT, EXPEDITIOUS AND COURTEOUS HANDLING BY STATE, INS AND U.S. NAVY OF DIFFICULT PROBLEM. IT CREATED VERY FAVORABLE IMPRESSION ON HAITIAN EMIGRANTS AND GOH. MEADE

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